Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 JUSE-00 /071 W ------240722Z 062840 /13

R 231910Z MAR 77 FM AMCONSUL TIJUANA TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1775

UNCLAS TIJUANA 0147

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PBOR MX

SUBJ: WEEKEND AT THE BORDER - A SHOOTING AND INTERCEPTIONS

1. BORDER PATROL OFFICIAL TOLD US BP AGENT ACCIDENTALLY SHOT AND LIGHTLY WOUNDED ALIEN EVENING MARCH 21 IN STRUGGLE NEAR OAK GROVE CHECKPOINT ABOUT 40 MILES NORTHEAST OF SAN YSIDRO. AGENT HAD DRAWN GUN IN COURSE OF CHASE THROUGH HEAVY BRUSH. ALIEN, WHOSE NATIONALITY NOT YET ASCERTAINED, WAS ONE OF 10 OR 11 IN CAR. SIX WERE CAUGHT: THE WOUNDED ALIEN, FOUR IN TRUNK OF CAR AND ONE ASLEEP IN CAR. ALIEN WAS TREATED FOR WOUND AND RELEASED IN CUSTODY OF BP.

2. SAN DIEGO UNION MARCH 22 HEADLINED ON FRONT PAGE "LAWMEN INTERCEPT 1906 ALIENS IN SURPRISE 36 HOUR SEEP." BP OFFICIAL TOLD US SUBSEQUENTLY THAT INTERCEPTS, OF WHICH ALL BUT HANDFUL IN CHULA VISTA SECTOR, WERE FOR 24 HOUR PERIOD, SUNDAY, MARCH 20 AND WERE RESULTS OF ROUTINE OPERATIONS, NOTHING MORE. BP OFFICIAL SAID THAT APPREHENSIONS FOR CHULA VISTA SECTOR (THIS INCLUDES SAN DIEGO, SANTA BARBARA, SAN LUIS OBISPO AND VENTURA COUNTIES MINUS THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF SAN DIEGO) IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1976 WERE 71,997 AND FOR JANUARY 1 - MARCH 18, 1977, WERE 78,570. HE ATTRIBUTED INCREASE IN APPREHENSIONS TO USE OF HELICOPTER THIS YEAR TOGETHER WITH GREATER NUMBER OF UNCLASSIFIED

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ALIENS CROSSING LINE. HE ESTIMATED THAT BP IN CHULA VISTA INTERCEPTS ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF ILLEGALS AT ANY ONE TIME.

3. FINALLY, TIJUANA'S EL HERALDO ON MARCH 18 FRONTPAGED REMARKS ATRIBUTED TO BORDER PATROL AGENT JAMES GREEN BARNER DECRYING THE CONTINUOUS FLOW OF BLOOD ALONG THE BORDER OF BOTH BORDER PATROL AGENTS AND ILLEGALS WHILE U.S. AND MEXICAN FUNCTIONARIES

APPEAR IN THE PRESS AND ON TELEVISION ASSURING THAT THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGALS IS BEING ATTENDED TO. THE ARTICLE DESCRIBED BARNES AS WORKING IN THE SAN DIEGO AREA, BUT THERE IS NO BP AGENT IN THE CHULA VISTA SECTOR BY THAT NAME.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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